

What is claimed is:

1. A display drive circuit comprising:

RAM which sequentially stores data for image display that  
5 is input continuously;

a plurality of grayscale pattern selection circuits, each  
selecting one grayscale pattern from a plurality of grayscale  
patterns, based on data stored in the RAM; and

10 a plurality of frame selection circuits which are  
provided in correspondence with the plurality of grayscale  
pattern selection circuits, and sequentially output grayscale  
patterns selected by the plurality of grayscale pattern  
selection circuits for a series of image frames.

15 2. The display drive circuit as defined in claim 1, further  
comprising:

an image data conversion circuit which receives data in  
which grayscales are represented by N bits (where N is an integer  
greater than or equal to 2), converts the received data into  
20 data in which grayscales are represented by M bits (where M is  
an integer such that  $M > N$ ), based on a set command, and supplies  
the converted data to the RAM.

25 3. The display drive circuit as defined in claim 1, wherein  
each of the plurality of grayscale pattern selection circuits  
includes:

a selection ROM which outputs a grayscale pattern

selection signal based on data stored in the RAM; and  
an FRCROM which selects one grayscale pattern from among  
the plurality of grayscale patterns in accordance with the  
outputted grayscale pattern selection signal, and uses the  
selected grayscale pattern to perform frame rate control (FRC)  
modulation in accordance with a control signal that is output  
from the corresponding frame selection circuit.

4. The display drive circuit as defined in claim 2, wherein  
10 each of the plurality of grayscale pattern selection circuits  
includes:

a selection ROM which outputs a grayscale pattern  
selection signal based on data stored in the RAM; and

15 an FRCROM which selects one grayscale pattern from among  
the plurality of grayscale patterns in accordance with the  
outputted grayscale pattern selection signal, and uses the  
selected grayscale pattern to perform frame rate control (FRC)  
modulation in accordance with a control signal that is output  
from the corresponding frame selection circuit.

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5. The display drive circuit as defined in claim 1,  
wherein each of the frame selection circuits is divided  
into a plurality of portions that are disposed on either side  
of the corresponding grayscale pattern selection circuit.

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6. A display drive circuit comprising:  
RAM which sequentially stores data for image display that

is input continuously;

a plurality of FRCROMs which store a plurality of grayscale patterns with mutually different frame cycles, and use data stored in the RAM to select one grayscale pattern from

5 among the plurality of grayscale patterns; and

a plurality of frame selection circuits each of which sequentially outputs the selected grayscale pattern selected by the FRCROMs, for each frame,

wherein a drive signal for driving a display portion is

10 output based on the outputted grayscale pattern from the FRCROMs.

7. The display drive circuit as defined in claim 6, further comprising:

15 an image data conversion circuit which receives data in which grayscales are represented by N bits (where N is an integer greater than or equal to 2), converts the received data into data in which grayscales are represented by M bits (where M is an arbitrarily settable integer such that  $M > N$ ), and supplies

20 the converted data to the RAM,

wherein each of the frame selection circuits outputs the selected grayscale pattern based on the M-bit grayscales, for each frame.

25 8. A semiconductor integrated circuit comprising:

the display drive circuit as defined in claim 1; and

a terminal which outputs a drive signal generated on the

- basis of the selected grayscale pattern.
9. A semiconductor integrated circuit comprising:  
the display drive circuit as defined in claim 2; and  
5 a terminal which outputs a drive signal generated on the  
basis of the selected grayscale pattern.
10. A semiconductor integrated circuit comprising:  
the display drive circuit as defined in claim 3; and  
10 a terminal which outputs a drive signal generated on the  
basis of the selected grayscale pattern.
15. A semiconductor integrated circuit comprising:  
the display drive circuit as defined in claim 4; and  
a terminal which outputs a drive signal generated on the  
basis of the selected grayscale pattern.
20. A semiconductor integrated circuit comprising:  
the display drive circuit as defined in claim 5; and  
a terminal which outputs a drive signal generated on the  
basis of the selected grayscale pattern.
25. A semiconductor integrated circuit comprising:  
the display drive circuit as defined in claim 6; and  
a terminal which outputs a drive signal generated on the  
basis of the selected grayscale pattern.

14. A display panel comprising:  
pixels specified by a plurality of common electrodes and  
a plurality of segment electrodes, which mutually intersect;  
and
- 5 the display drive circuit as defined in claim 1, which  
drives the segment electrodes.
15. A display panel comprising:  
pixels specified by a plurality of common electrodes and  
10 a plurality of segment electrodes, which mutually intersect;  
and  
the display drive circuit as defined in claim 2, which  
drives the segment electrodes.
- 15 16. A display panel comprising:  
pixels specified by a plurality of common electrodes and  
a plurality of segment electrodes, which mutually intersect;  
and  
the display drive circuit as defined in claim 3, which  
20 drives the segment electrodes.
17. A display panel comprising:  
pixels specified by a plurality of common electrodes and  
a plurality of segment electrodes, which mutually intersect;  
25 and  
the display drive circuit as defined in claim 4, which  
drives the segment electrodes.

18. A display panel comprising:  
pixels specified by a plurality of common electrodes and  
a plurality of segment electrodes, which mutually intersect;  
5 and  
the display drive circuit as defined in claim 5, which  
drives the segment electrodes.
19. A display panel comprising:  
10 pixels specified by a plurality of common electrodes and  
a plurality of segment electrodes, which mutually intersect;  
and  
the display drive circuit as defined in claim 6, which  
drives the segment electrodes.
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20. A display drive method comprising:  
selecting one grayscale pattern from among a plurality  
of grayscale patterns having at least two types of frame cycles,  
based on data for image display, and outputting the selected  
20 grayscale pattern for each frame; and  
outputting a drive signal for driving a display portion,  
based on the selected grayscale pattern.
21. The display drive method as defined in claim 20,  
25 converting grayscales of N bits (where N is an integer  
greater than or equal to 2) into grayscales of M bits (where  
M is an arbitrarily settable integer such that M > N); and

selecting one grayscale pattern from among the plurality of grayscale patterns having at least two types of frame cycles, based on the M-bit grayscales, and outputting the selected grayscale pattern for each frame.